Dear Walter, 12/15/72

One of the unhappier realizations of my work on the assassinations is that the cardinal sin is to be right. And the more one is right, the more he becomes the object of opposition and dislike, with the consequences of both, of those who are not right, this attention increasing with the frequency with which the wrong are wrong. It seems that strong-willed people with high self-esteem were attracted to the subject.

So, I am adjusted the the consequences of a good record. It does not include being happy about it.

I've just heard on the radio but have not seen the printed accounts of the official report on the Southern University murders. It has and the knowledge of the friends of the victims has the same voids that existed in all other cases, again no closely.

You may recall the strenuous efforts I made at the time of Attica to see to it that the quintessential evidence was first collected and then preserved. Clearly that has not happened again, and from the first it was clear first what was essential and second that it would not. Criminals just don't preserve evidence against themselves, and in this case again the police were the criminals.

I recall my calls and letters to Flo on this, for example.

The one difference is that in this case I learned and did not take the time to try to do something. I learned that nobody will pay attention. The feeling of futility is not comfortable, and it means the success of repression, besides individual suffering. I know you can do nothing about this, and I have really been intending to write you about other things, for one of which I have time before breakfast.

One last word on Baton Rouge: I can show you an "instant analysis" written on seeing the first TV footage the first time that from the official report can have but a single error, identification of the kind of police firing. (I am not yet persuaded there was but a single shell fired or that one caused both death-I have some familiarity with shotguns and from the film the distance was too great.)

I have not yet heard from R of the lawyers, and my need for one in New York increases with the deporation of our financial condition. I had to borrow from a friend yesterday to meet immediate emergencies, and I have no idea how or when I can repay.

At the cost of considerable time and aggravation, I have gotten David to back down on his fraudulent allegations of AAs that you will recall my discussing with you, to repay those sums, and to credit me on the remainders which I am to get with the interest from the time the sums were due. Other problems remain. One is my demand, made in advance, of repayment for the time required to check the spurious list of AAs when the contract required the providing of proofs. Another is the basis for determining the amount of the advance if there were to be any change in the one agreed upon on submission. Here something like $3,000 is involved. And there are others having to do with non-performance.

However, compared to the Bell situation, this is peanuts. There I think I do have an open-and-shut case on several points. The evidence includes two affidavits by Bobby and Meyer accounting for greater sales than accounted for to me and even copies of an edition never accounted for.

It is pretty dismay to live in such poverty with the amounts of money due me. It is in some ways more dismal not to be able to get a lawyer, as it has been not to be able to get the lawyer who took the case years ago to do anything.

So, when you have some to do a bit of thinking, I hope you can devote a little of it to coming up with a lawyer I might ask.

Hope everything is going well. I'd expected to hear from Lydia that she had heard from Rosa. I was a couple of blocks from Harry's sister Saturday with a correspondent friend but didn't have time to stop off.

Have a good holiday!